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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/998,910	11/30/2001	Joan C. Teng	21756-011900	4169

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EXAMINER
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BLAIR, DOUGLAS B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2142

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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10/31/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 09/998,910	Applicant(s) TENG, JOAN C.	
	Examiner Douglas B. Blair	Art Unit 2142	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 August 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 8/20/2007 has been entered.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-46 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-2 and 4-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,662,365 to Sullivan et al. in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,987,611 to Freund.

5. As to claim 1, Sullivan teaches a method in an access management system comprising an identity system for managing identity profiles and an access system for providing security of resources, a method for defining a workflow for managing entity identities, the method

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comprising the steps of: the access management system accessing a template that indicates one or more parameters for defining one or more workflows for managing identity profiles, wherein said one or more parameters comprise one or more parameters that define an operation to be performed on identity profiles as part of said one or more workflows (**col. 9, lines 36-53, the saved user profiles are the templates**); creating a definition of a first workflow for managing an identity profile for at least one user (**col. 9, lines 26-30**), based on said template, wherein said identity profile is used by said access management system to control access by said at least one user to said resources (**col. 6, lines 58-64**); and storing said definition of said workflow at a mass storage device (**col. 4, lines 62-65**); however Sullivan does not explicitly teach the resources being distributed across web servers.

Freund teaches a method of managing an identity profile for at least one user wherein said identity profile is used by an access management system to control access by said at least one user to resources on one or more web servers (**col. 9, lines 22-53**).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Sullivan regarding the use of templates for implementing an access policy for various users with the teachings of Freund regarding implementing an access policy for various users with respect to resources on web servers because Sullivan discusses controlling access distributed applications (col. 10, lines 60-63) and the resources taught by Freund are distributed applications that would fall within the scope of col. 10, lines 60-63 of Freund.

6. As to claim 2, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, wherein: said template includes a set of parameters for each action available to a workflow type (**col. 8, lines 7-37**).

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7. As to claim 4, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of: adding data to said template after said step of storing; creating a definition of a second workflow after said step of adding data; and storing said definition of said second workflow (**col. 9, lines 13-20**).

8. As to claim 5, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of: creating the template (**col. 9, lines 13-20**).

9. As to claim 6, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 5, wherein said step of creating said template includes the steps of: adding a set of workflow types to said template; adding one or more actions for at least a subset of said workflow types; and adding parameters for at least a subset of said actions (**col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30**).

10. As to claim 7, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, wherein: said template applies to only one application (**col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30**).

11. As to claim 8, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, wherein: said template includes parameters for creating objects, deleting objects and changing attributes (**col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30**).

12. As to claim 9, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, wherein: said template includes parameters for self registration (**col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30**).

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13. As to claim 10, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, wherein: said template includes a parameter indicating whether supplied variables can be used in said step of creating **(col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30).**

14. As to claim 11, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, wherein: said template includes a parameter indicating whether additional workflows can be used to supply data **(col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30).**

15. As to claim 12, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 11, wherein: said additional workflows includes multiple levels of nesting of workflows **(col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30).**

16. As to claim 14, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, wherein said step of creating includes the step of: accessing one or more parameters in said template; offering a set of options based on said accessed parameters; and receiving a selection of one or more of said offered options **(col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30).**

17. As to claim 15, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, wherein said step of creating includes the steps of: determining a first set of possible actions for a particular step based on said template; reporting said first set of possible actions; and receiving a selection of a first action of said first set of possible actions **(col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30).**

18. As to claim 16, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, wherein said step of creating includes the steps of: determining a first set of possible data types for a particular action based on said template; reporting said first set of possible data types; receiving an indication of a

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variable for said first workflow; and receiving a selection of a first data type for said variable **(col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30).**

19. As to claim 17, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 16, wherein: said first data type is a variable supplied by another workflow **(col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30).**

20. As to claim 18, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, wherein said step of creating includes the steps of: determining whether pre actions are available for a particular action based on said template; reporting whether pre actions are available for said particular action; and receiving a selection of whether to add pre actions to said definition of said first workflow for said particular action **(col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30).**

21. As to claim 19, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, wherein said step of creating includes the steps of: determining a first set of possible entry conditions for a particular action based on said template; reporting said a first set of possible entry conditions; receiving a selection of a first entry condition of said first set of possible entry conditions; determining and reporting whether said first entry condition is associated with a sub-workflow; and receiving an indication whether said first workflow should wait for said sub-workflow **(col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30).**

22. As to claim 20, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, wherein said step of creating includes the steps of: determining a first set of possible actions for a particular step based on said template; reporting said first set of possible actions; receiving a selection of a first action of said first set of possible actions; determining a first set of possible data types for said

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first action based on said template; reporting said first set of possible data types; receiving an indication of a variable for said first workflow; receiving a selection of a first data type for said variable; determining whether pre or post actions are available for said first action based on said template; reporting whether pre or post actions are available for said first action; receiving a selection of whether to add pre or post actions to said definition of said first workflow for said first action; determining a first set of possible entry conditions for said first action based on said template; reporting said a first set of possible entry conditions; receiving a selection of a first entry condition of said a first set of possible entry conditions; determining and reporting whether said first entry condition is associated with a sub-workflow; and receiving an indication whether said first workflow should wait for said sub-workflow (**col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30**).

23. As to claim 21, Sullivan teaches a method according to claim 1, wherein said step of creating includes the steps of: accessing one or more parameters in said template; offering a set of options in a graphical user interface based on said accessed parameters; and receiving a selection of one or more of said offered options using said graphical user interface (**col. 4, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 58-64, col. 8, lines 7-37, col. 9, lines 26-30**).

24. As to claims 22-39, they are rejected for similar reasoning to claims 1-21 as being devices and a system for performing the method of claims 1-21.

25. As to claims 40, The Sullivan-Freund combination does not explicitly teach enrolling, renewing, and revoking certificates. Official notice is taken that the use of certificates was well known at the time of the invention. It would have been obvious to combine the teachings of the Sullivan-Freund combination with the certificates because certificates provide an added layer of



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security and the claims are not actually doing anything specific with the certificates thus using certificates as claimed would produce a predictable result.

26. Claims 3 and 41-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,662,365 to Sullivan et al. in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,987,611 to Freund in further view of U.S. Patent Number 7,080,078 to Slaughter et al.

27. As to claims 3 and 41-46, the Sullivan Freund combination does not explicitly teach the use of XML and callback URL's for performing workflow functions.

Slaughter teaches the use of XML messages and callback URL's for performing workflow functions (col. 8, lines 24-48).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of the Sullivan Freund combination regarding the management of users with workflows with the teachings of Slaughter regarding XML and callback URL's because XML provides a way of standardizing messages via a network.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas B. Blair whose telephone number is (571) 272-3893.

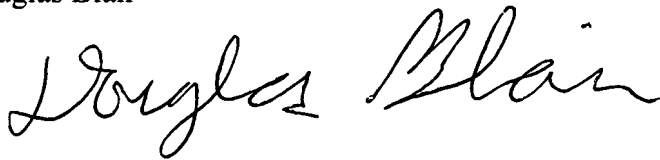
The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell can be reached on (571) 272-3868. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Douglas Blair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas Blair". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "D" and "B".